

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Mr. Speaker and members of the Legislature, what this is designed to do is to give an opportunity to discuss each one of these items as a discreet, free-standing entity. I'm aware that it will take 30 votes to amend the motion that is being offered by the committee. What I first started to do was make a motion to strike individual items, but that might give the impression that a vote to strike an item meant that the item itself was not favored. So rather than take the approach of moving to strike individual items, I made my decision to try to leave individual items in the motion for discussion. So I am following the pattern or format that was adopted by the Appropriations Committee in putting together their package. So what I would do is leave Section 41 or the first item in the motion that was offered by the Appropriations Committee and that would be to restore the recommended increase in the Textbook Loan Program and if I understand this correctly, this is that program whereby school...books are lent to nonpublic schools. Let me ask Senator Wehrbein a question on that.

SPEAKER WITHEM: Senator Wehrbein.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Yes.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Senator Wehrbein, that is what this program is where textbooks can be lent by the public schools to nonpublic schools?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: That is true.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: And it doesn't matter whether the public, whether the nonpublic school is parochial or secular?

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: It's to the child, excuse me, not to the school, but it goes direct to the child.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay, but the point I mean, it doesn't matter what kind of private school the child is attending.

SENATOR WEHRBEIN: Right.

SENATOR CHAMBERS: Okay. Now \$45,000 is not a great amount of money to be spent in any case for any purpose when we're talking about a state budget. In this instance I'm going to support this proposition and by that I mean the Textbook Loan Program